

TURNING OFF THE HAZCOLLECT NWEM FORMATTER ISSUE TIME

Background

HazCollect generates Non-Weather Emergency Messages (NWEMs) that are formatted for CRS and subsequent NWR broadcast by the NWEM formatter. This is a CAFÉ-era formatter and generally contains the same configuration parameters as other CAFÉ formatters, including the **ISSUE TIME**. The current version of HazCollect running in AWIPS sets the **ISSUE TIME** to Y. If set to Y, the formatter generates an issue time from the AWIPS MND line and places it at the beginning of the CRS text. The text will look like the following:

ISSUED AT 1245 PM WED NOV 24.

As is evident from the format depicted above, the issue time does not include the time zone. This may cause confusion for messages that are issued from one time zone and distributed to others. The recent HazCollect National ADR tests generated a test message with an issue time in the eastern time zone and was distributed to other time zones. Several test sites (most notably in the western time zone) noted the confusion during the second National ADR test.

Since the issue time is not something that was designed for watch and warning messages such as NWEMs, the best solution for the issue time problem is simply to remove it from the CRS-ready messages. Until the **ISSUE TIME** can be turned off in HazCollect in a AWIPS OB7.2 software maintenance build during the spring of 2007, the best way to do this is to modify all instances of the **ISSUE TIME** in the NWEM configuration file to N.

Procedure

1. On AWIPS, modify all instances of the **ISSUE TIME** parameter in **/home/CRS/NWEM/config.nwem** to the following:

ISSUE TIME= N